(घ) क्या यह सच है नहीं है कि वहां पहुंचने वाले अनेक विदेशी यात्रियों और पर्यटकों को ध्यान में रखते हुए इन दोनों विमानपत्तनों को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन का दर्जा दे दिया जाना चाहिए?

नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री अनंत कुमार): (क) से (घ) पटना विमानपत्तन को, सीमित अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रचालनों के लिए सभी आधुनिक सुविधाओं से सुसज्जित एक आदर्श विमानपत्तन के रूप में पहले से ही विकसित कर दिया गया है।

बागडोगरा विमानपत्तन रक्षा मंत्रालय का है और भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण वहां एक सिविल एन्कलेव का अनुरक्षण कर रहा है। भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण 11.43 करोड़ रुपए की लागत पर आधुनिक सुविधाओं सहित एक नये टर्मिनल भवन का निर्माण कर रहा है। कार्य के अक्तूबर, 1999 तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है। इस समय इस विमानपत्तन का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन के रूप में स्तरोन्नयन किए जाने हेतु विचार नहीं किया जा रहा है।

Upgradation of Chennai International Airport

2483. SHRI V. P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Chennai International Airport is located at a strategic point for providing air services to important places in South Asia. Gulf and also the European countries;

(b) whether the facilities/passenger amenities available in this airport are at par with that of international standard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The facilities provided are-Free luggage trolleys, Wheel Chairs for disabled passengers, Bank/ Money Exchange Counters, Postal/ Telegraph facilities, Prepaid taxi service and car rental, Airport-city-Airport shuttles (air-conditioned/non-a/c coaches), Tourists Information, Hotel Booking, Left luggege, Retiring room/ dormitory accommodation, Restaurant/ Snack Bar, (in all Passenger Terminals), Coffee/Tea/Cold drink Vending Machines, Duty Free shops, Bookshop, Computerised flight information display boards and colour CCTV system and PA system for flight information of passengers, PCOs for local/STD/ISD calls (manned and unmanned), Free local call telephone facility in all security hold areas, as well as international arrival area and international transit lounge, Reserved Lounge/Ceremonial lounge for VIPs/VVIPs, Child care/infant lobby, Lost & found property facility, Aerobridges, Convevor belts for baggage handling, Escalators and lifts.

(d) Does not arise.

Upgradation of Trivandrum Airport

2484. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to develop the Trivandrum Airport to an International Airport with modern facilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Thriruvananthapuram airport is already an International airport and has all the modern facilities. The following development works have been undertaken at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport:—

(1) Extension of Apron is likely to be completed in December, 1996;

(2) Air-conditioning of the international terminal building is likely to be completed in December, 1998; and

(3) Interim modification to the terminal building is likely to be completed in March, 1999.